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Senate

The Senate met at 9 a.m., and was called to order by the Honorable PAUL COVERDELL, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Father, there is no greater joy than to be Your friend. Along with Abraham and Moses, and men and women throughout the ages, we accept the awesome privilege of a friendship with You. To be called a friend of God is a source of strength and courage. When this assurance pervades our minds, hearts, and wills, we can pray for Your guidance and know that You will not only show us the way, but walk with us.

Thank You for helping us be the kind of friends to others that You have been to us. May we express Your loyalty, faithfulness, and consistency. We are thankful for the lasting friendships established and deepened over the years here in the Senate. These friendships weather the storms of conflict, party differences, and political tensions.

Today, on behalf of both parties, I express our gratitude to You, Father, for our friend, BOB DOLE. Thank You for his commitment to You expressed so faithfully in his leadership and service here in the Senate. He leaves the Senate this afternoon, but You know he can never leave the place he holds in our hearts. Bless him with the knowledge of Your love and our esteem. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 11, 1996.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable PAUL COVERDELL, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. COVERDELL thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the majority leader, the Senator from Kansas.

SCHEDULE

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, there will be a period for morning business this morning from 9 o'clock until 10 o'clock. I ask unanimous consent that from 9:45 a.m. until 10 o'clock, I might have that 15 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOLE. From 10 o'clock to 12 noon, the time will be under the control, I think, of Senator NICKLES. At 12 o'clock or thereabouts, I will make a brief statement. Then there will be recess until 2:15 for the weekly policy luncheons. At 2:15, the Senate will swear in SHEILA FRAHM, as a U.S. Senator, as my successor.

Following the swearing in, it is my understanding we will begin debate on the budget resolution, the conference report, 10 hours, and votes, therefore, are possible on the budget resolution conference report or any other items that may be cleared for action.

We are still trying to break the logjam on nominations. I am not certain

we can get that done before noon today. I know we have cleared some nominations. We will take those up, hopefully, between 9:15 and 10 o'clock. I repeat what I have said many times: I do not like holding nominations and have not made it a practice personally. Hopefully, those who have the problems can work them out either today or after I am gone, because there are many families here trying to make plans. Holding up their nominations makes it difficult.

Of course, personally, I am still hopeful we can clear the World Trade Organization legislation. At one time it was cleared in the U.S. Senate. All it does is to give Congress a role in the event there are arbitrary decisions made by faceless, nameless bureaucrats in Geneva where we can exit from the World Trade Organization. It seems to me it is something we would want to do. It is supported by the President, supported by Mickey Kantor, the former U.S. Trade Representative. In fact, it was part of an agreement when I agreed to support it, standing with the President on the White House lawn—the GATT agreement which was part of that agreement. I hope the administration would be helpful.

As I understand, all the holds are on the other side of the aisle. I would like to complete action on that before noon today. If it is not possible, it is not possible. Senator DASCHLE had indicated on Thursday he would be pleased to help. I am certain he will over the next few hours. If anybody has any problems with that legislation, I think if they understood it—and it is not very complicated—it simply says that Congress should have a role, too.

There is a great deal of concern by people all over America who may have lost their jobs to foreign competition—at least they believe they have lost their jobs to foreign competition—they are concerned about all these, whether it is GATT or NAFTA, all

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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